

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 28, 2016

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi:

We write to urge your serious consideration that another one-year suspension of the health insurance tax be included in any appropriate legislation moving through Congress during the upcoming lame duck session.

As we continue to explore legislative options for making health care more affordable and bringing some immediate financial relief to Americans and their families, we believe this issue has proven time and again to be a successful opportunity for good, bipartisan work to be done.

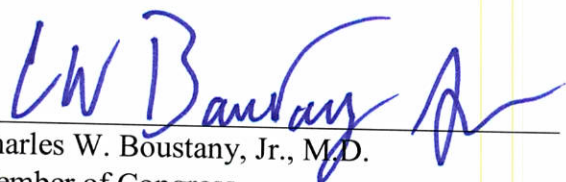
In that same vein, you are likely aware of the bipartisan legislation introduced, H.R. 928, which would fully repeal the health insurance tax. To date, 235 bipartisan House members have cosponsored this bill; this exceeds the number of cosponsors that similar bipartisan bills attracted in the two preceding Congresses. Furthermore, as health care costs continue to rise, many working families and small business owners across the nation are becoming increasingly concerned with the impact the health insurance tax has in increasing their health insurance premium costs.

In December 2015, Congress approved a one-year suspension of the health insurance tax for 2017, legislation that was approved with bipartisan support. According to an analysis by actuaries at Oliver Wyman, another one-year suspension of the health insurance tax would result in premium savings in 2018 of \$370 for seniors with coverage through the Medicare Advantage program; \$280 for employees having coverage through a small business; \$220 for those buying coverage in the individual market; and \$160 in per-enrollee savings under state Medicaid coverage. We believe Congress should take similar action before adjourning this year by voting to extend the suspension of the health insurance tax through

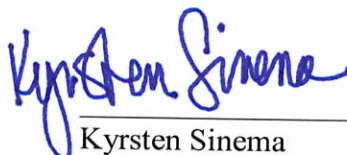
2018. Providing another one-year extension of relief from the health insurance tax will prove critical to helping countless Americans and their families who continue to struggle with the burden of high health care costs.

Thank you for considering our views on this important issue. We look forward to working with you in any way possible to pass legislation that continues the suspension of the health insurance tax into 2018.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Boustany, Jr., M.D.
Member of Congress



Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress



Kristi Noem
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress